

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

**--REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This is the § 371 U.S. National Stage of International Application No. PCT/US2003/040988, filed on December 18, 2003, which was published in English under PCT Article 21(2), and which in turn application-claims priority to the benefit of U.S. provisional patent application no. 60/434,601 filed 12/18/2002~~December 18, 2002, the contents~~both of which are hereby incorporated by reference.--

Please replace the existing sequence listing with the attached sequence listing.

Please insert the attached Abstract as page 21 of the specification.